



## Hurricane Harvey 2017 9/4/2017 – 1500 CDT Update

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The remaining peroxide trailers at the Arkema facility were manually ignited on September 3, 2017 in a controlled method to eliminate the risk of an uncontrolled event. EPA issued a joint statement with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality about a controlled burn of materials at the Arkema facility in Crosby, Texas. The Crosby Volunteer Fire Department and the Harris County Fire Marshall's Officer performed the burn.
- A staging area was secured for the Beaumont Branch and two OSCs will be mobilizing there tomorrow.
- Field response activities continued at both the Corpus Christi and Houston Branches. As areas are evaluated, the focus changes from assessment to recovery.
- Two additional Incident Objectives have been added: 1) Establish a vessel recovery strategy 2) Establish a strong interagency partnership with public and private organization to determine ownership and disposition of targets.
- Multiple Superfund Phase 2 Site inspections are planned for the next two operational periods. One Superfund Phase 2 inspection was completed this operational period.
- The Acting Regional Administrator and advisors to the Administrator are meeting this morning with the Houston Mayor and other local and state officials.
- The Acting Regional Administrator and advisors to the Administrator will be touring NPL sites with reporters from several national media outlets, and may be attending a Congressional briefing later today.

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Acting EPA Regional Administrator Sam Coleman, in concert with Chairman Shaw of TCEQ, briefed the Mayor of Houston and other local officials this morning at the Houston Emergency Center. Afterwards, a cadre of press officials joined to tour three Superfund sites targeted for Phase 2 inspections. The 3 sites scheduled for inspection observation were US Oil Recovery, Highland Acid Pits, and San Jacinto River Waste Pits. In the afternoon, a Congressional delegation

led by Senator John Cornyn's office was to be briefed by EPA and TCEQ. Information included a recap of resources dedicated to the Hurricane Response, a summary of NPL site inspections in all the impacted counties, information on drinking water and wastewater systems, accomplishments and projections of work. Information on the recent Arkema facility activities was provided as well.

## **ARKEMA**

- After a successful controlled burn of the remaining six trailers yesterday, local authorities in coordination with the Harris County Health Department and in consultation with EPA, TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control, and Arkema, lifted the 1.5-mile radius evacuation order shortly after midnight. As such, Arkema is working with the local authorities to complete the re-population of the residents affected by the evacuation order.
- Incident operations are gradually shifting to assessment of conditions within the facility to determine if re-entry of repair personnel is safe. An operational priority is to establish temporary cooling capabilities within the warehouse where approximately 750K lbs of ambient temperature organic peroxide is currently being stored. This material has a very high Self-Accelerating Decomposition Temperature (SADT) and does not currently pose an imminent threat of decomposition, but as a precaution and in concurrence with UC, the RP is proceeding with a temporary cooling system. At this time, the most practical approach is to place four tons of dry ice inside the building where the peroxide is currently being stored.
- At 1015 an Arkema and Harris County Fire Marshall's Office assessment team indicated that the building with the high SADT peroxide was safe to enter in order to place the dry ice. This determination was made in response to indoor temperature readings within the bays of stored material found to be below 60° F, significantly below the lowest SADT of 104° F. Dry ice placement should be completed by mid-afternoon.
- EPA responders/assets will remain at the site for the remainder of the operational period and demobilize this afternoon.
- 1 EPA, 1 START

## **PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT**

EPA has secured an operational staging area in the parking lot of the Central Mall, adjacent to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Marine Safety Unit (MSU) in Port Arthur. Two EPA OSCs are mobilizing from Houston tomorrow along with GIS/Data Support. Currently, most of the area is still inaccessible due to flooding. EPA will continue to coordinate with local, state and federal response partners to plan for further assessment and potential response actions once the flood waters recede. The priority for the next operational period is to set up command posts with work space and continue developing an operational structure to begin field operations.

## **DEBRIS RECOVERY**

No new information.

## **AIR MONITORING**

EPA's mobile air monitoring Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) bus along with EPA personnel will be arriving in Houston today.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has offered EPA the use of its Mobile Air Monitoring Lab to collect air data in the Beaumont/Port Arthur area.

An EPA Team began mobile air monitoring in the Manchester community (Houston Branch). At least six locations were monitored, all monitoring results were at background conditions.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/3/2017	Cumulative	9/3/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi Branch	6	43	11	50
Houston Branch	26	94	7	10
NRC Reports	0	3	0	0
* Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.				

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/3/2017	Cumulative	9/3/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi Branch	9	339	2	28
Houston Branch	0	30	2	3
NRC Reports	2	21	0	7

## WATER SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT

No new information overnight.

## SUPERFUND INSPECTIONS PLANNED

The updated Status/Schedule for NPL Inspections is below:

- Phase 1 – 41 sites completed 9/1/17
- Phase 2 – 11 sites require inspection
  - Planned
    - San Jacinto – 9/4/17 Miller
    - Highlands Acid Pit – 9/4/17 Miller
    - French Ltd. – 9/5/17 Sullivan
    - Gulfco Marine – 9/5/17 Abshire
    - Malone Services – 9/5/17 Miller
    - Patrick Bayou – 9/5/17 Abshire
    - Petro-Chemical Systems – 9/5/17 Abshire
    - Triangle Chemical – 9/5/17 Sullivan
    - US Oil Recovery – 9/4/17 Miller
    - Bailey Waste – 9/5/17 Sullivan
    - Geneva – **complete 9/3/17**

## FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

As areas are evaluated, the focus changes from assessment to recovery. Several additional Oil Recovery and Container Recovery teams were added to both the Corpus Christi Branch and Houston Branch.

The table below displays the teams deployed in the Corpus Christi and Houston Branches during this operational period:

<b>Quantity and Types of Teams Deployed 9/3/2017</b>			
<b>Team Type</b>	<b>Corpus Christi Branch</b>	<b>Houston Branch</b>	<b>Port Arthur / Beaumont</b>
Water Assessment Teams	1	8	
Hazard Evaluation	2	21	4
Oil Discharge Assessment	3	5	5
Container Recovery	0	2	
Oil Recovery Group	2	0	
ER/Recovery Group	1	0	
Arkema Group	0	1	
Air Operations Group	0	2	

#### CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

- The Corpus Christi Branch Oil Discharge Recovery Group is in the process of prioritizing vessels and contacting marinas to relocate vessels.
- The Oil Discharge Assessment Group (ODA) 1 provided oversight of the removal of oil from the Signet Enterprise at Aransas Pass. Thus far, 20,000 gallons of diesel has been removed and 280,000 gallons remains.
- ODA 1 monitored the Drill Ship DPSSD1 as it was successfully free floated with no issues or pollution observed. The Drill Ship DPSSD1 is currently enroute to Sherwin Alumina dock.
- The Corpus Christi Branch Hazard Evaluation Group transitioned from two teams to one team. The Oil Discharge Assessment Group transitioned from three teams to two teams. The Oil Discharge Recovery Group transitioned from two teams to three teams.

	<b>CONTAINERS</b>			<b>TOTAL</b>
	<b>Drums [55 gals]</b>	<b>Large Containers [&lt;55 gals]</b>	<b>Large Containers [&gt;55 gals]</b>	
9/3/2017	7	0	0	7
Total to date	39	32	2	73

#### HOUSTON BRANCH:

- The Bravo branch has received an influx of upwards of 80 personnel and is ramping up Hazard Evaluations. The Bravo branch has two deputy branch directors in order to maintain span of control.
- ASPECT is conducting assessments of the Houston area during this operational period.
- Two USCG Liaison Officers and Planning personnel include EPA and EPA START have integrated into the Houston Branch.

#### PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

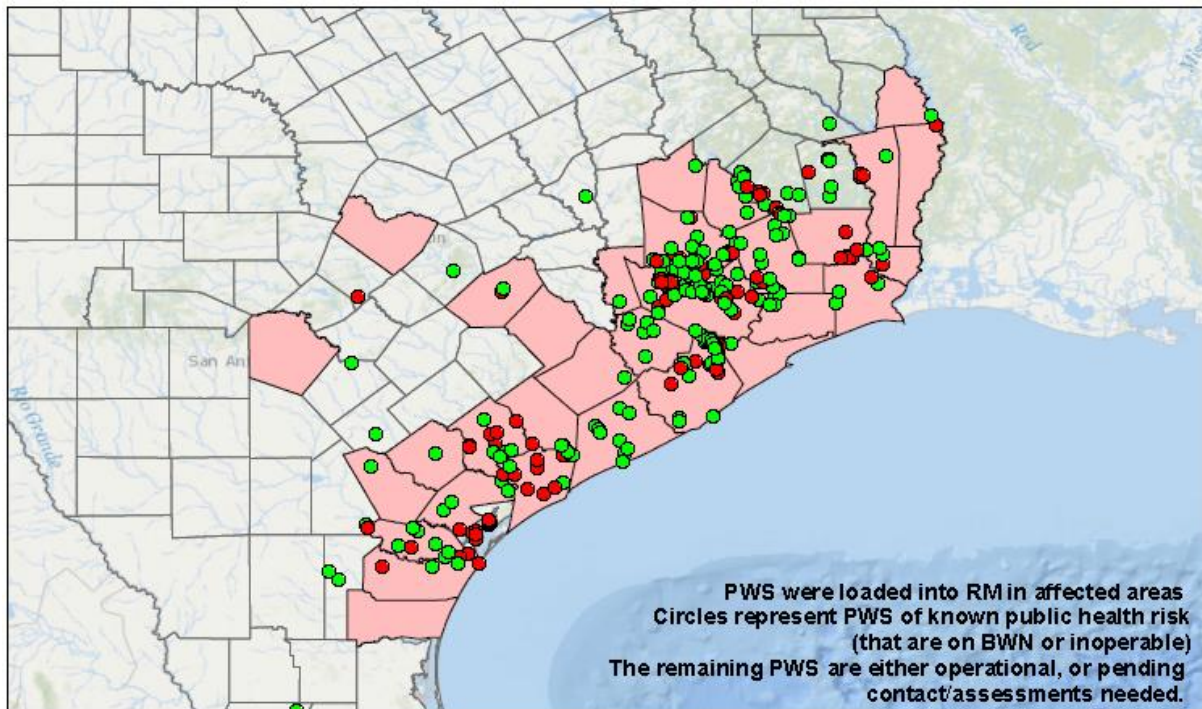
- The Port Arthur / Beaumont Branch should be fully stood up by Wednesday, September 6, 2017 and is currently operating with five Oil Discharge Assessment teams.

#### SPILL/RELEASE RESPONSE

Hotline Calls as of September 4, 2017	
Number of Harvey Related Calls Received During Reporting Period 1300-0100	3
Total Number of Harvey Related Calls to Date	139
* EPA is assessing each call to determine appropriate response and forwarding reports to field personnel to conduct further assessments and response as needed.	

#### DRINKING WATER / WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

EPA continues to support TCEQ in contacting drinking water and waste water systems with 10 personnel manning TCEQ's Drinking Water and Waste Water Phone Bank located in Austin.

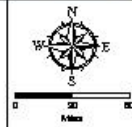


#### Legend

- Boiled Water Notice
- Water Outage
- Federal Declared Counties

#### US EPA Region 6 Hurricane Harvey Response Drinking Water Status Map in Hurricane Harvey Affected Areas

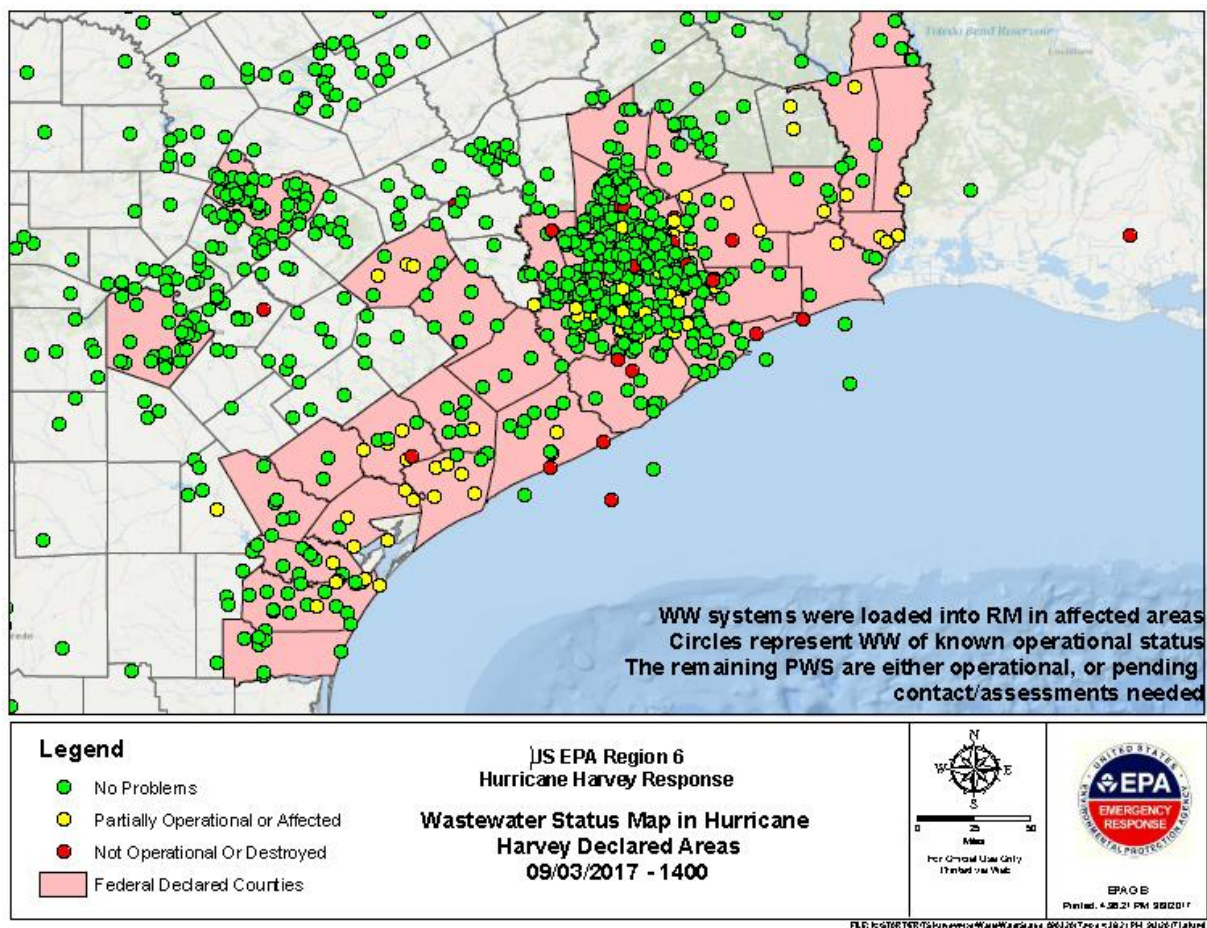
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## EPA RESOURCES

Personnel	EPA Dallas, TX	FEMA Denton, TX	TX SOC Austin, TX	TCEQ Austin, TX	*Houston, TX	Crosby, TX	Corpus Christi, TX	Beaumont/ Port Arthur	HQ EOC, Wash, DC	TOTAL
EPA	29	2	2	11	21	3	14	3	17	102
START	7		1	1	12	3	6			30
ERRS					7		8			15
Other Contractors	1								6	7
TOTAL	37	2	3	12	40	6	28	3	23	154





Phillips 66 refinery.

Four No Action Assurance (NAA) letters were signed by EPA on September 1, 2017, to help address fuel shortages. NAAs will help expedite the distribution of existing gasoline supplies in both Texas and Louisiana while the refineries work to re-start and resume normal operations. For each NAA, EPA will exercise discretion not to pursue enforcement for violations of the regulations identified in the NAAs. Each NAA is effective for two weeks, or until September 15. It is anticipated that these NAAs will allow for the immediate distribution in Texas of 10 million or more gallons of gasoline to consumers.

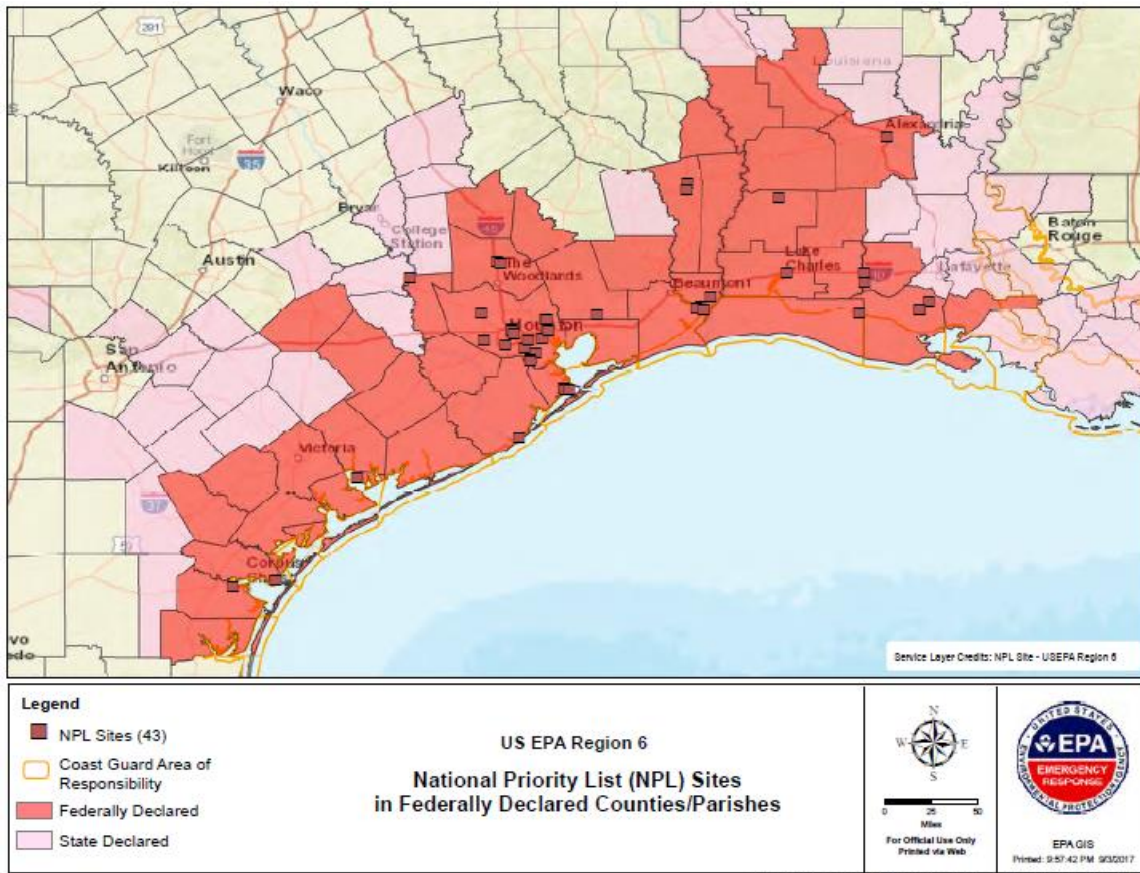
**Texas NAA for Vapor Recovery Systems:** Several federal regulations and the Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) require that bulk gasoline, marine, and rail loading terminals operate a vapor control system to collect the fuel vapors displaced from tank trucks during product loading. This NAA allows the loading and unloading of fuel at terminals that have damaged or inoperable vapor recovery devices or that are otherwise not equipped with such devices.

**Texas NAA for Truck Loading at Petroleum Distribution Terminals:** Several federal regulations and the Texas SIP require that gasoline tank trucks obtain testing and certification that the tank trucks are vapor tight. This NAA allows tank trucks to load and unload fuel at terminals even though the trucks may not be registered with the terminals as having completed all the testing for tank tightness or have the documentation on hand to prove it.

**Texas NAA for Roof Landings at Gasoline Storage Vessels:** This relates to several federal regulations and the Texas SIP covering storage vessels with external floating roofs. Specifically, when the operator removes product from the vessel such that the roof lands on the vessel's legs, such action must be a continuous motion, i.e. the process of re-filling the vessel must begin immediately after roof landing. This NAA will allow roof landings without requiring immediate re-filling of the vessel.

**Louisiana NAA for Truck Loading at Petroleum Distribution Terminals:** Several federal regulations and the Louisiana SIP require that gasoline tank trucks obtain testing and certification that the tank trucks are vapor tight. This NAA allows tank trucks to load and unload fuel at terminals even though the trucks may not be registered with the terminals as having completed all the testing for tank tightness or have the documentation on hand to prove it.

# SUPERFUND NPL SITES



## SUPERFUND NPL SITES (Continued)

Superfund Sites within Federally Declared Counties					9/4/2017
Hurricane Harvey Rapid Response Assessment	Phase 1	Phase 2		Phase 3	All Phases Completed
Site Name	Rapid Response Assessment	Site Inspection Needed	Inspected	Additional Response Action	
TEXAS					
ALCOA (Point Comfort) / LAVACA BAY	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
BAILEY WASTE DISPOSAL	9/1/2017	Yes			
BRINE SERVICE CO.	8/30/2017	Yes	8/30/2017	No	8/30/2017
BRIO REFINING INC.	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
CONROE CREOSOTING COMPANY	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
CRYSTAL CHEMICAL CO.	8/30/2017	No			8/30/2017
DIXIE OIL PROCESSORS INC.	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
FALCON REFINERY	8/30/2017	Yes	8/30/2017	No	8/30/2017
FRENCH, LTD.	9/1/2017	Yes			
GENEVA INDUSTRIES / FUHRMANN ENERGY	9/1/2017	Yes	9/3/2017	No	9/3/2017
GULFCO MARINE MAINTENANCE	9/1/2017	Yes			
HARRIS (FARLEY STREET)	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
HART CREOSOTING	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
HIGHLANDS ACID PIT	9/1/2017	Yes			
JASPER CREOSOTING	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
JONES ROAD GROUNDWATER PLUME	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
MALONE SERVICES COMPANY	9/1/2017	Yes			
MANY DIVERSIFIED INTERESTS, INC	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
MOTCO, INC.	8/31/2017	No			8/31/2017
NORTH CAVALCADE STREET	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
PALMER BARGE LINE	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
PATRICK BAYOU	9/1/2017	Yes			
PETRO-CHEMICAL SYSTEMS, INC. (Turtle Bayou)	9/1/2017	Yes			
SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS	9/1/2017	Yes			
SHERIDAN DISPOSAL	9/3/2017	No			9/3/2017
SIKES DISPOSAL PITS	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
SOL LYNN / INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMERS	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
SOUTH CAVALCADE STREET	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
STAR LAKE CANAL	8/30/2017	No			8/30/2017
STATE MARINE OF PORT ARTHUR	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
TEX-TIN CORP.	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
TRIANGLE CHEMICAL COMPANY	9/1/2017	Yes			
UNITED CREOSOTING CO.	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
US OIL RECOVERY	9/1/2017	Yes			
LOUISIANA					
AMERICAN CREOSOTE DERIDDER	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
D.L. MUD, INC.	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
EVR-WOOD TREATING/EVANGELINE REFINING COMPANY	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
GULF COAST VACUUM SERVICES	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
GULF STATE UTILITIES (North Ryan Street)	8/31/2017	No			8/31/2017
MALLARD BAY LANDING BULK PLANT	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
PAB OIL & CHEMICAL SERVICE	8/29/2017	No			8/29/2017
SBA SHIPYARD	9/1/2017	No			9/1/2017
RUSTON FOUNDRY	9/3/2017	No			9/3/2017
STATUS SUMMARY					
Rapid Response Assessment Completed	43				
Sites with no further action	33				
Sites in Phase 2	10				

**Legend**

**Federally Declared Counties in Texas**

- No Designation
- Public Assistance (Category B)
- Individual Assistance (Category A & B)

**US EPA Region 6**

**FEMA - Texas Counties with Federal Disaster Declarations**

**Hurricane Harvey Response**

**0600 CDT 20170904**

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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